

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

Kristen N. Cooley,

Plaintiff,

v.

Target Corporation, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 20-cv-2152 (DWF/DTS)

**AMENDED
PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER**

The following schedule will govern these proceedings unless modified pursuant to Local Rule 16.3.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DATES:

Joinder and Amended Pleadings Deadline: June 25, 2021

Fact Discovery Completion Deadline: **December 10, 2021**

Expert Deadlines

Disclosures: P – **December 23, 2021** D – **January 21, 2022**

Depositions: **March 3, 2022**

Non-Dispositive Motion Deadline to **Serve and File: April 14, 2022**

Dispositive Motion Deadline to **Serve and File, Schedule: April 14, 2022**

INITIAL DISCLOSURES

The parties have made their initial disclosures under Rule 26(a)(1).

MOTIONS TO AMEND

1. Motions seeking to join other parties must be filed and served by June 25, 2021.
2. Motions seeking to amend the pleadings must be filed and served by June 25, 2021.

FACT DISCOVERY

1. Written Discovery

- A. No more than a total of 25 interrogatories, counted in accordance with Rule 33(a), shall be served by either side.
 - B. No more than 40 document requests shall be served by each party. Objections to document requests must meet the requirements of amended Rule 34(b)(2)(B).
 - C. No more than 100 requests for admissions shall be served by each side.
- 2. No more than 10 factual depositions, excluding expert witness depositions, shall be taken by each side.
 - 3. The parties must commence fact discovery procedures in time to be completed on or before **December 10, 2021**.

EXPERT DISCOVERY

- 1. Each party may call no more than 2 expert(s) to testify.
- 2. Disclosure of the identities of expert witnesses under Rule 26(a)(2)(A), the full disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(2)(B) (including the written report prepared and signed by each expert witness), and the full disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(2)(C), shall be made as follows:

Identification and Rule 26(a)(2)(B) and 26(a)(2)(C) disclosures by Plaintiff on or before **December 23, 2021**.

Identification and Rule 26(a)(2)(B) and 26(a)(2)(C) disclosures by Defendant on or before **January 21, 2022**.
- 3. All expert discovery, including expert depositions, must be completed by **March 3, 2022**.

PRESERVATION OF DOCUMENTS AND ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY

The parties have discussed the scope of discovery, including relevance and proportionality and any issues about preserving discoverable information. The parties have also discussed electronic discovery and agree upon the following:

The parties do not foresee that electronic discovery will be a significant issue in this case and have represented they will work together to resolve any disputes.

NON-DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS

A. Dates

1. All non-dispositive motions relating to *fact* discovery must be filed and served by **January 14, 2022**.
2. All other non-dispositive motions, including motions relating to *expert* discovery, must be filed and served by **April 14, 2022**.

B. General Procedures

All non-dispositive motions must be scheduled for hearing by calling Terianne Bender, Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Schultz at 612-664-5460, prior to filing, except when all parties agree that no hearing is required. Such an agreement must be expressly set forth in the notice of motion. Once the moving party has secured a hearing date, it must promptly file a notice of motion informing all parties of the nature of the motion and the date, time and location of the hearing, along with complete moving papers as required by Local Rule 7.1. A moving party may not call chambers to “hold” a motion date without filing complete moving papers as required by Local Rule 7.1 unless it receives prior permission from the Court.

Counsel may not notice additional motions for hearing on an already existing hearing date without first contacting the Court for permission. All motions must be filed and served within the time periods set forth in this Order and the Local Rules.

C. Special Procedures for Discovery Motions

Discovery disputes will not be heard unless the parties have first met and conferred either in-person, telephonically, or by video and made a good-faith effort to settle their dispute, pursuant to revised Local Rule 7.1. **If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute after good-faith efforts, the party raising the unresolved issue must first arrange a telephone conference with Magistrate Judge Schultz before filing a formal motion.** No filings on discovery motions will be considered by the Court until the Court has first addressed the matter via conference call.

If a discovery motion is related to written discovery or the contents of depositions, the parties must fill out a chart (attached) that describes each disputed discovery request and response; each party’s position, and the moving party’s last offered compromise. This chart must be in Word format and emailed at least three business days before the hearing to chambers at: Schultz_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov. Failure to provide this chart to the Court as required by this scheduling order shall result in the cancellation of the hearing.

DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS

All dispositive motions shall be **filed, served, and scheduled** by **April 14, 2022**. All dispositive motions shall be filed and served in compliance with the Electronic Case Filing Procedures for the District of Minnesota and in compliance with Local Rule 7.1. Counsel shall schedule the hearing by calling Lori Sampson, Courtroom Deputy for District Judge Donovan W. Frank, at 651-848-1296. When a motion, response, or reply brief is filed on CM/ECF, two (2) paper courtesy copies of the pleading and all supporting documents shall be mailed or delivered to chambers contemporaneously with the documents being posted on CM/ECF.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no party shall bring a dispositive motion pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 while formal discovery is ongoing without first obtaining permission from the undersigned magistrate judge. Permission shall be sought by electronically filing via CM/ECF a letter of no more than three (3) pages briefly setting forth the basis for the motion, whether discovery relating to the issue or issues to be addressed by the motion is complete, and why judicial efficiency would be served by allowing the motion to proceed at this time. The other party or parties may file brief letters in support of or in response to the request. Denial of a request for permission to file an interim dispositive motion shall not be taken as an indication of the Court's view about the merits of the proposed motion.

PRIVILEGE/PROTECTION

The parties agree to follow the procedure set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(5)(B) regarding information produced in discovery that is subject to a claim of privilege or protection as trial-preparation material. Pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502, the inadvertent production of any documents in this proceeding shall not constitute a waiver of any privilege or protection applicable to those documents.

PROTECTIVE ORDER

The parties have entered into a protective order.

JOINT MOTIONS REGARDING CONTINUED SEALING PURSUANT TO LR 5.6

A document will be sealed in a civil case “only as provided by statute or rule, or with leave of court.” LR 5.6(a)(1). The fact that a document may be subject to a protective order—for example, that a party designated it “confidential” under a protective order—is not dispositive of whether the Court will order it to remain sealed. Simply stating that a party designated it confidential, without more, is not an adequate reason or explanation within the meaning of LR 5.6(d)(2)(A) to support a request that the Court order the document to remain sealed. A party must briefly explain the underlying reason that the particular information should remain sealed and unavailable to the public. If the reason is not a commonly recognized one, or there is a statute or regulation that requires the information to be withheld from the public, the party must identify it and briefly explain how the information falls under the statute or rule.

TRIAL

This case shall be ready for jury trial as of **September 14, 2022**. The parties estimate that trial of this matter will take **6** days.

PRACTICE POINTERS AND PREFERENCES

Please refer to Magistrate Judge David T. Schultz's Practice Pointers and Preferences which may be found on the Court's website.

Dated: August 19, 2021

s/David T. Schultz
DAVID T. SCHULTZ
U.S. Magistrate Judge

Case Name and Number _____

Several discovery responses have been identified as deficient in [the moving party's Motion to Compel (ECF No. _____)]. To assist the Court in more efficiently resolving the parties' discovery dispute, the parties shall meet and confer, and jointly complete the following chart. The purpose of this chart is not to repeat, or cut and paste, the arguments present in the parties' memoranda, but to identify succinctly each party's position and the compromise last offered at the meet and confer. Please attach additional sheets as necessary. At least three business days before the hearing, the fully completed chart shall be e-mailed to chambers at Schultz_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov

Discovery Request at Issue (state verbatim the request)	Moving Party's Position	Responding Party's Position	Moving Party's Last Offered Compromise	Responding Party's Last Offered Compromise	Court Notes

Counsel for Moving Party: _____

Counsel for Responding Party: _____

Date: _____